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in the polar regions prepared by the author for the International Polar Congress which met in 1908 at Brussels. The arrangement of the list is chronological under each of the countries engaged in the work, the first part of the book containing the Antarctic record and the second part the Arctic. As far as possible the date, the vessel, the object of the expedition, the names of the officers and scientists of each party are given. The task is a large one and it is not strange that even a second edition contains many errors. In the American list, for instance, the leader of the 1861-62 expedition is given as Francis Charles Hall, the names of the captains of the vessels in Wilkes's fleet do not agree with Greely's list, the expeditions of Leonidas Hubbard, Jr., and Mrs. Hubbard in Labrador are entered, but Wallace's expedition is not included, and in Peary's 1905-6 expedition appears the name of J. Ross Marvin, while in Peary's 1908-9 expedition, E. Ross Marvin. R. M. BROWN.

EDUCATIONAL GEOGRAPHY

Commercial Geography. A Book for High Schools, Commercial Courses, and Business Colleges. By Jacques W. Redway, F.R.G.S. viii and 408 pp. Maps, illustrations and index. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1910. 7½ x 5½.

This book, a new edition, contains thirty-nine chapters, of which two are given to general principles, one each to climate and topography, two to transportation, one to cities, nine to commercial products, three to the United States, and the remaining chapters to the rest of the commercial world. An analysis of the chapter contents shows that the author's object is factual. But little attempt is made to correlate the facts of commerce and manufactures with the reasons, either geographic or economic, for those facts. The chapters on the underlying factors of climate, topography, economics and sociology are short and incomplete and are evidently not considered very important in the treatment. The style is clear, readable, interesting. Useful review topics and well-chosen illustrations add to the value of the book. It seems doubtful, however, if this class of text books brings out the great possibilities of the subject in the school room, when the separate items are given without adequate consideration of fundamental principles. F. V. EMERSON.

Climatic Control. (Black's School Geography.) By L. C. W. Bonacina. viii and 167 pp. Maps, ills., index. Adam & Charles Black, London, 1911. 2s. 7 x 5.

A pleasantly written, rather superficial but interesting little book. The author realizes the breadth of his subject, and frankly says in his preface that he has only tried to prepare "a guide to help the student to observe and think for himself." The principles of climatology are first discussed, after which comes a description of the various "types of land in relation to climate," such as equatorial forests, tropical grass-lands, monsoon belts, sand deserts, the forests, grass lands and deserts of the temperate zones, polar snow deserts, and mountains. The climatic conditions of selected countries, "representative of the different regions of the earth," are then considered, and here we have brief accounts of the climates of the British Isles, Russia, Italy, Egypt, Brazil and Greenland. Special attention is paid to the British Isles, and many smaller relations of climate and man are brought out. The influence of climate upon man is considered in three chapters, but instead of treating this subject under the zones, or under different types of climate, our author takes it up under indoor life, outdoor life, and race and nationality. Most of the illustrations of climatic control are very familiar, and we cannot help feeling that several of them are far-fetched. For example (p. 113), in speaking of an Alpine valley which opens towards the north, the author says that it "is entirely cut off from the direct rays of the sun, with the consequence that a hideous disease called cretinism lurks among its inhabitants." We have never heard that cretinism was due to lack of sunshine. In his consideration of the influence of climate upon the color of the skin, and upon other physical and mental characteristics, our author touches upon many matters of active controversy with a very strong leaning on his part in favor of the climatic control. Curiously placed, at the end of the book, comes a chapter on meteorology, which seems to us quite out of place there. We feel sure that Mr. Bonacina's little volume will find a good number of readers, and that it will do its work well in directing attention, in an interesting way, to the importance of our climatic environment.

R. DeC. Ward.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Physik der Erde. Von Prof. M. P. Rudzki. viii and 584 pp. 60 text figures and 5 plates. Chr. Herm. Tauchnitz, Leipzig, 1911. M. 14. 9½ x 6.

Students of geophysics will welcome this comprehensive work, which presents the results of the physical and mathematical studies of earth problems, and in a form, as far as possible, intelligible to the non-mathematical though scientific reader. In a good many chapters a knowledge of the differential and integral calculus is indeed assumed, but Prof. Rudzki shows an exceptional facility in stripping his subject of non-essentials and so laying the outlines clearly before the reader. Excepting only the subjects of earth magnetism and meteorology, the attempt has been made to cover the entire field of earth physics.

The author of this comprehensive work is Director of the Astronomical Observatory at Cracow and holds the unusual title of Professor of Physical Geography and Astronomy in the University at that place. The book is the author's German translation of his own work originally published in Polish two years earlier.

The figure of the earth he treats at considerable length in three chapters (100 pages) which are admirably clear summaries of the various calculations upon the form of the geoid, based upon gravity and geodetic measurements. It is a little remarkable that no mention should be made of the earth's departure from the spheroidal toward the modified tetrahedral figure, as clearly indicated by the distribution of ocean and continent, the disposition of ancient land masses, etc. In discussing the rigidity of the planet, though the tidal argument is given with much fullness, that based upon earthquake waves, and Kelvin's argument from continued rotation are not taken up.

The rôle of radium in modifying the effect of secular cooling Rudzki believes to be so great as probably to mask completely the loss of heat from radiation, though admitting that the time has not yet come for a definite pronouncement. He thus places himself upon the side of Joly and as against the views of Strutt that only the earth's shell to a depth of about 72 kilometers contains radium.

The appearance of this work of a mathematician with a more or less general assumption of authority, makes it pertinent to comment upon the manner in which its conclusions should be received. The name "exact sciences" as applied